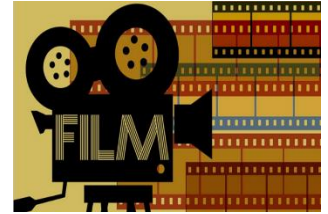


**CLASS B LYCEUM**

**UNIT 6 MOVIES**

**Teacher: Jovanna Xenophontos**



**READING**

**TASK 1**

**Read the article entitled *Fad or the Future* (p. 61 Student's book\_Oxford Futures 3) in your books and do the questions that follow.**

**1. Why does the writer use the word “leap” in paragraph 1?**

- A. To immerse the reader in the scene.
- B. To help the reader become a detached observer.
- C. To include more complex words in his writing.
- D. To explain to the reader how trains moved at the time.

**2. Which developments in film making have made movies truer to life, according to paragraph 1?**

- (i) size of screen
- (ii) train images
- (iii) panicking audiences
- (iv) quality of sound

- A. (ii),(iii)
- B. (i),(iv)
- C. (iii),(iv)
- D. (i),(iii)

**3. The invention of *Technicolour* \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. showed filmmakers a new way of doing things
- B. established old and tested ways of doing things
- C. meant that the *Wizard of Oz* could now be filmed
- D. encouraged filmmakers to favour black and white films

**4. Colour movies did not take off in the early 1900's because audiences\_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. thought they were not artistic enough for them
- B. found them far too costly to be affordable
- C. were unfamiliar with the visual experience they provided
- D. believed they were a passing craze that would soon die out

**5. The addition of sound to movies received a negative response from the public because \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. it deprived people of the opportunity to interact
- B. actors found it terribly distracting
- C. many actors were made redundant
- D. it was annoying as actors could not memorise their lines

**6. The popularity of 3D movies was short-lived because of \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. health issues
- B. ticket prices
- C. technicalities
- D. a rise in TV owners

**7. The *Sensorama* offered audiences a \_\_\_\_\_ experience.**

- A. valuable
- B. limited
- C. multisensory
- D. hands-on

**8. The word "they" (line 44) refers to the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. 3D experiences
- B. 3D headsets
- C. movie directors
- D. audience

**9. The last two lines of the article convey a sense of \_\_\_\_\_.**

- A. disinterest
- B. certainty

C. scepticism

D. confidence

**10. The author writes in a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ style, trying to inform or explain the topic to the reader.**

A. persuasive

B. narrative

C. expository

D. descriptive

## **TASK 2**

**Read the article on movie endings and answer the questions that follow**

### **Happily ever after?**

Imagine you are on your way to the movies. You love happy endings, so you've chosen to watch a romantic comedy. But if the movie ended in tragedy, would you ask for your money back?

Americans are obsessed with happy endings. Today Hollywood movies often have happy endings. Before movies are released in theatres, they are usually shown to test audiences. If the test audience doesn't like the ending of the movie, the director will change it. Think about recent blockbusters: how would the audience have reacted to *Jurassic World* if everyone had been eaten by dinosaurs? Would people have enjoyed *Frozen* if Elsa hadn't been saved by Anna? If people liked sad endings there would be a lot more of them.

Many of us watch movies to escape from reality; people crave happy endings because, on the one hand, they help us forget about our problems for a while, and on the other, because happy endings provide hope instilling the belief that obstacles can be overcome, love can last, fences can be mended, and good can triumph. Films become this small window for us to crawl through and walk in the lives of others. In a world devoid of hope, what intelligent being would attempt to tackle the seemingly insurmountable problems of our age? If there is no possibility of a happy ending, what is the point of striving for one? After all, even Shakespeare wrote more comedies than tragedies!

However, there is also the flip side of the argument. If art imitates life, one wonders, how realistic these syrupy-sweet endings are. The ancient Greeks preferred tragic endings. They believed that tragedy had more value because it taught us about the consequences of our actions. In other words, we'll learn more about life if we watch a tragedy. Recent research shows that watching tragic or sad movies can actually make people happier because it brings attention to the more positive aspects of their own

lives. It tends to make them reflect on their relationships in a “count your blessings” kind of way.

Danish films often have dreary, sad or tragic endings. Many times, I have watched Danish films and waited to hear that soothing background music that would signal my suffering was about to end and everything would turn out all right after all. But time and time again, the Danish films would touch on sensitive, real and painful issues that didn't wrap it up with a nice bow, lid closed, packaged up into the gift of a great life ahead.

Most Danish people believe that tragedies and upsetting events are something we should talk about too. They don't believe they have to be glossed over for adults or for children. If you consider that we learn more about character from our suffering than our successes it makes sense that we should examine all parts of life. This has been proven to build empathy and a deeper respect for humanity. It also helps us feel gratitude for the simpler things in our life we sometimes take for granted by focusing too much on the fairy-tale life. Despite the darkness, Danish films are never boring and never devoid of humour, albeit very ironic.

So next time you are choosing a film, consider watching a Danish one. It may punch you in the face and kick you in the stomach with its bleak window into humanity. But you might just walk away afterwards and think-“Hey, my life is pretty good after all!”

It's not just about getting a happy ending. It's about being able to appreciate the journey along the way-with all its magnificent peaks and valleys. This is such an important lesson to teach our children. If they learn to see more beauty in reality, they will grow up to be happier for it.

Adapted from: Oxford Discover Futures 3, p.62 and

<http://thedanishway.com/why-happy-endings-dont-make-us-that-happy/>

1. How can a test audience help movie producers?

.....

2. Why does the writer mention *Jurassic World* and *Frozen*?

.....

3. Why do many people enjoy movies with happy endings? Give two details.

.....  
.....

4. What sense does the exclamation mark in “Even Shakespeare wrote more comedies than tragedies!” convey?

.....  
5. How does watching sad movies benefit people, according to the article? Give two details.

.....  
.....  
6. What does the article tell us about Danish movies? Mention three details.

### TASK 3

Read the blog extracts (A-C) in which three people talk about movies and the film industry. Then answer the questions that follow. There are two extra questions you will not need to use.



#### A. James Smith

We all enjoy a good movie, but really what makes a movie good? Is it an actor's performance? Or is it the screenplay or soundtrack? Does it amaze us with stunning special effects or remind us of our own lives? Or does it depend on who we watch it with and where? People do not agree on what makes a good movie. To my mind, it is deeply personal. However, one thing we do seem to agree on is that going to the movies is a social event and sharing our reactions with other people can make it more enjoyable. Also, when we recommend a movie to other people, we should consider things like special effects, acting performances, the soundtrack and the screenplay. We should also be objective about the movie's strong points and weak points, not just the things we like.

## B. Madeleine Cyrus

Cinema has come a long way since 1896. In the silent era cinema was a place for socialising and chatting while you watched. When sound came on, people suddenly had to listen. When people started buying TVs for their homes, movie theatres were no longer the only place to watch visual entertainment on-screen. Today cinemas are in a vulnerable position and may be facing their biggest challenge, as we can access movies anywhere on our personal devices and home cinemas are almost as good as the real thing. Also, recent research clearly shows that another reason cinemas are suffering is because the pandemic intensified and accelerated all of the nascent trends that were already underway. The nascent trends? Rising ticket prices, the perception that moviegoing has become a hassle and a generational shift toward streaming, gaming, and other smartphone-based entertainment. And I don't think the answer to these complicated problems is simple.

## C. Kate Johnson

During the early 1940's, Americans went to the cinema to get away from the problems of the real world for a few hours. Many movies often have happy endings because many people like to believe that good can triumph over evil. If it happens on screen, then it can happen in real life, too. But happy endings don't necessarily make us happy. Psychologists have shown that tragic movies can make us feel happier about our own lives. So sad endings may actually be better for us. Further research has shown that, surprisingly enough, sad stories may provoke thoughts that go beyond our relationships and extend to more existential considerations.

Adapted from: Oxford Discover Futures 3, unit 6, exercise 4 p. 67

Which blogger says that ...?	
1. going to the cinema was a means of escapism	_____
2. sad endings in films boost feelings of group bonding	_____
3. when making suggestions about movies we should not be biased	_____
4. technology may prove to be the film industry's Achilles heel	_____
5. watching a particular film genre makes us feel grateful and elicits reflective thoughts	_____
6. watching traumatic films may be a blessing in disguise	_____
7. going to the movies is a communal experience	_____
8. going to the cinema deprives one of their chance to socialise	_____
9. taste in films is highly idiosyncratic	_____
10. there is no silver bullet solution to the problems of the film industry	_____

## WRITING

### TASK 4



a. Choose the correct heading (a-d) for the paragraphs below.

- a. What you like and dislike about the movie
- b. Overall opinion and recommendation
- c. General Information about the movie
- d. A brief description of the plot and the main events of the movie

b. Fill in the blanks to complete the model film review, using words from the box

script, set, full of thrilling moments, as the story unfolds, visual effects, keep you on the edge of your seat, brilliantly, twists and turns, witty, action-packed, adventure, box office, fast moving, superb performances, thoroughly

### Model film review

Par. 1- Introduction: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_ directed by Rob Marshal, "Pirates o the Caribbean- On Stranger Tides" is an amazing, 2. \_\_\_\_\_ adventure, starring Johnny Depp as Captain Jack Sparrow and Penelope Cruz as Angelica. This first-rate film is 3. \_\_\_\_\_ in an imaginary world and tells the story of how Jack Sparrow and Barbossa set out to find the Fountain of Youth, only to discover that Blackbeard and his daughter are after it too.

Par. 2: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_, we see how Jack Sparrow crosses paths with the enigmatic Angelica. However, he is not sure if it's love-or if she's a ruthless con artist who is using him to find the Fountain of Youth. When she forces him aboard "The Queen Anne's Revenge', the ship of the infamous pirate Blackbeard, Jack finds himself on an unexpected adventure in which he doesn't know whom to fear: Blackbeard or the woman from his past?

Par. 3: \_\_\_\_\_

The film is 5. \_\_\_\_\_ as the director creates tension through several 6. \_\_\_\_\_ in the plot which is so 7. \_\_\_\_\_ that the audience will never get bored. However, what is awesome about the film is that it combines tension and 8. \_\_\_\_\_ with countless humorous moments that make the film one of a kind. The 9. \_\_\_\_\_ in the movie are absolutely thrilling - background extensions were combined with atmospheric smoke, smog and fog to give an old London feel; the

10. \_\_\_\_\_ is equally fascinating, the dialogues 11. \_\_\_\_\_ and the actors give 12. \_\_\_\_\_.

**Par. 4: Conclusion-** \_\_\_\_\_

Don't miss it! Stranger Tides broke many 13. \_\_\_\_\_ records when it was first released and not without reason! I 14. \_\_\_\_\_ recommend it. If you like excitement, it will definitely 15. \_\_\_\_\_.

Adapted from: <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1298650/plotsummary>

## Task 5

You recently watched a movie in class which you did not like very much. Your English teacher has asked you to write a review about the film. In your review, you should:

- give some general information about the movie
- talk about the plot in more detail
- say what you did not like about the movie
- write your (negative) recommendation

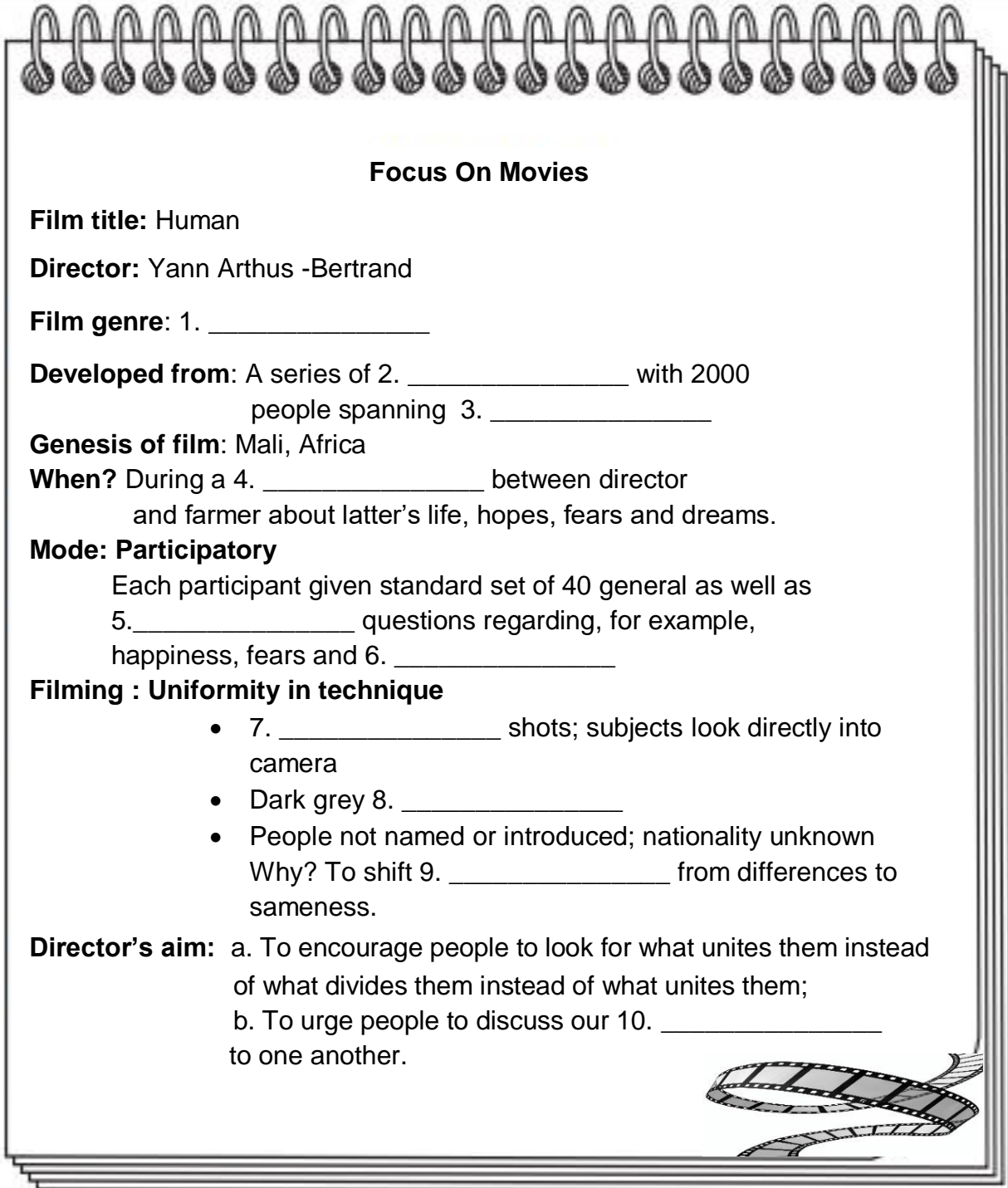




## LISTENING

### TASK 6

Listen to the following interview with a movie critic who talks about the movie HUMAN and complete the details below. Write one or two words or a number for each answer. You will hear the recording twice. (p. 64 Oxford Discover Futures 3)



**Focus On Movies**

**Film title:** Human

**Director:** Yann Arthus -Bertrand

**Film genre:** 1. \_\_\_\_\_

**Developed from:** A series of 2. \_\_\_\_\_ with 2000  
people spanning 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Genesis of film:** Mali, Africa


**When?** During a 4. \_\_\_\_\_ between director  
and farmer about latter's life, hopes, fears and dreams.

**Mode: Participatory**  
Each participant given standard set of 40 general as well as  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ questions regarding, for example,  
happiness, fears and 6. \_\_\_\_\_

**Filming : Uniformity in technique**

- 7. \_\_\_\_\_ shots; subjects look directly into camera
- Dark grey 8. \_\_\_\_\_
- People not named or introduced; nationality unknown  
Why? To shift 9. \_\_\_\_\_ from differences to sameness.

**Director's aim:** a. To encourage people to look for what unites them instead of what divides them instead of what unites them;  
b. To urge people to discuss our 10. \_\_\_\_\_ to one another.



## TASK 7

You will hear five people talking about movies. For each of Speakers 1-5, choose from the list, A-F, which opinion each speaker expresses. Write the letter in the box. Use each letter only once. There is one extra letter which you do not need to use. You will hear the recordings twice.

Speaker 1

**A.** Well, one of the protagonists realised that first impressions are not always reliable.

Speaker 2

**B.** If you are into films that send chills down your spine, I would recommend this one.

Speaker 3

**C.** The artificial images in the film created by technical experts appeared so real! That was what I liked most about the film.

Speaker 4

**D.** The film soundtrack included an award-winning song.

Speaker 5

**E.** I didn't enjoy it much. I'm not keen on films that make your blood run cold.

**F.** If it hadn't been for the actor in the starring role, the film would have been too sentimental.

For the listening track, go to: <https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/skills/listening/b1-listening/my-favourite-film>

